for which therapeutic aquivalents were usually available.

(b) to (d) M/s. Alembic are manufacturing Erythromycin from basic stage whereas other manufacturers are manufacturing Erythromycin and its salts from intermediate stage of TIOC. Shifting of TIOC from 3-A to O.G.L. and reduction in duty has already been recommended by the Department. However, proposal of industry regarding drastic reduction in duty on TIOC is being examined. Moreover, in a meeting held on 5.12 91 in the Department between representatives of Drug Industry and M/s. Alembic, the company has been directed to supply a portion of their production of TIOC to industry every month.

Withdrawal of amount from drugs prices equalisation account

3102. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount withdrawn from Drugs Prices Eqhalisation amount from the inception and till 30th November, 1991;

(b) what was the purpose for which the amount was withdrawn;

(c) when each amount was withdrawn and to whom the same was paid;

(d) what is the amount spent for maintaining the account and recovery of dues yearwise and what are the details of the same;

(e) whether any amount has been paid to any drug company;

(f) if so, the details thereof and whether any amount is due from the company under this account; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (g) The information will be laid on the Table of the House, after reconciling the figures, particularly with STC and the Pay & Accounts Office of the Department.

Assessment of prices charged by drug companies

3103. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 670 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1991 and state:

(a) what is the date upto which assessment is to be made in both Supreme Court and non-Supreme Court cases;

(b) what is the date in each case of Supreme Court and Delhi High Court upto which the company charged the prices of bulk drugs and formulations for which each company got stay; and

(c) when each company implemented Government fixed price in each case and what is the present fixed price of each bulk drug and finished medicine involved in litigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) Detailed information has already been given in the Statement annexed to the answer relating to the question referred to. The information asked for is voluminous and time consuming to collect, as such time and effort involved would not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Petitions filed by multinational drug companies

3104. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1650 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th September, 1991 and state;

(a) whether it is a fact that number of multinational drug companies filed petitions in various courts against the price fixation by Government under DPCO. 1979 and 1987;

(b) if so, names of the companies and when each company filed petition;

(c) what is the names of drug and formulation involved in each case;

(d) what was the price fixed by each company and what price was charged by each company; and

(e) what is the present status of each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (e) Soonafter the promulgation of DPCO 1979 and fixation of prices of various bulk drugs thereunder, in 1981. Writ Petitions against the prices thus fixed were filed by M/s. Hoechst, M/s. Gyanamid, M|s. Pfizer, M|s. John Wyeth, M/s. Merind, M|s. S. G. Pharmaceuticals and M/s. Glaxo in the Delhi High Court, and M/s. Sandoz, M|s. Abbott, M/s. Pfizer and M|s. Parke Davis (and Warner Hindustan) in the Bombay High Court. Recently, Writ Petitions were also filed by M/s. Burroughs Welleome & M/s. Nicholas in the Bombay High Court. Relevant information about the drugs involved, the period of recovery, the tentative liability of these Ctmpanies and the recovery made so far has already been given in reply to a number of Questions, for instance. Unstarred Question No. 670 answered in the Rajya Sabha on 28.11.91.

Increasing the price of Ampicillin Trihydrate

3105. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 678 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th September, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that price of Ampicillin Trihydrate has been increased;

(b) if so, what is the extent of increase;

(c) whether it is also a fact that price of Ampicillin Anhydrous and several other drugs have been kept pending;

(d) if so, what are the names of drugs for which price increase has been applied during the last two years upto 30th November, 1991 for which the price increase is still to be allowed;

(e) whether it is a fact that price fixation and implementation is done by the same set of officers;

(f) if so, the details thereof and what is the composition; and

(g) what are the names of direct and indirect inputs used for the production of Ampicillin Trihydrate for which duty concession was allowed and what is the percentage of concession in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The price of Ampicillin Trihydrate has been increased from Rs. 1925/- per kg. to Rs. 2215|- per kg.

(c) and (d) The price revision/fixation is an on-going process. Whenever any representation for price revision is received, after getting the requisite cost data/information and supporting documents from the producers of bulk drugs, the prices are revised in consultation with the BDP which are notified in the Gazette of India from time to time.

(e) and (f) The prices of bulk drugs are fixed as per the provisions of DPCO, 1987 on the basis of cost-cum-technical studies conducted by BICP and further examination by the Ministry.

(g) The names of inputs used for the production of Ampicillin Trihydrate for which duty concession was allowed were given in the reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 678 dated 5th September, 1991. The customs duty on these items has been reduced to 95 percent.